

Wade Hampton to Andrew Jackson, December 9, 1810, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

WADE HAMPTON TO JACKSON.1

1 Hampton was a prominent South Carolinian. It is known that Jackson spent a portion of his youth in Charleston, where he frequented the racetrack, and it is suggested that he there became acquainted with some of the leading sportsmen and acquired his lofty sportman's ideas. This letter shows that in 1810 he was on easy terms with one of the leading patrons of the turf in the South. In 1809 Hampton was made a brigadier-general in the regular army and stationed in New Orleans. He was superseded, in the command, by Brig.-Gen. James Wilkinson, in 1812.

Mouth of Elk, December 9, 1810.

Dear Sir , As I am fearful my Horses in your hands may not arrive in time to go down with my own, I will beg the favor of you to make the most of them. I am sure you will [do] with them as you would with your own, and be pleased to request Capt. Braham to do the same with the Dragon. I am vastly partial to your elegant seat and fine tract of land, but my face is turned the wrong course for purchases. In truth my thoughts are very much occupied with the objects of my journey, altho' perhaps to much less account. I see I must come and give you all a *lesson* or shall loose my credit as a sportsman.

Very truly and respectfully

I am off in half an hour.